Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00901 171435Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 SWF-02 IO-14

SAM-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /200 W

R 171100Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9882
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 1954
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL CONAKRY 0901

DAKAR JM RDO, MONROVIA FOR AGATT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : EAGR GV CH

SUBJECT : CHINESE AMBASSADOR REQUESTS US INCREASE ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA

1. DURING FAREWELL COURTESY CALL ON ME JUNE 15, CHINESE
AMBASSADOR HAN KE-HUA DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO AN APPEAL
THAT THE USG INCREASE ITS FOOD ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA. HE
NOTED THAT OVER THE YEARS WHILE GUINEA'S FOOD NEEDS HAD
INCREASED, AMOUNT OF GRAIN SUPPLIED BY US HAD DECREASED.
HE EMPHASIZED GUINEA NEEDED TO DEVELOP ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND PARTICULARLY TO BE ABLE TO SATISY ITS FOOD
NEEDS IN ORDER TO PURSUE ITS DESIRED INDEPENDENT POLICY
AND TO BE ABLE TO BREAK LOOSE FROM SOVIET GRIP. HAN
SAID THAT GIVEN DEMANDS ON CHINESE FOOD SUPPLIES, IT
WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA ALTHOUGH IT WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00901 171435Z

- 2. I REPLIED THAT GIVEN THE INCREASING WORLD DEMAND FOR US LIMITED FOOD SUPPLIES, THERE SEEMED LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE SUPPLY GUINEA TO PREVIOUS EXTENT. HOWEVER, WE DID HOPE TO DISCUSS WITH GUINEANS WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT HELP THEM INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.
- 3. AMBASSADOR HAN WELCOMED NEWS OF POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. HE REMARKED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS A LONG-TERM UNDERTAKING. HE SUGGESTED THAT EVEN WITH GOOD LUCK AND THE BEST OF CONDITIONS, IT WOULD TAKE SOME FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS FOR GUINEA TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD. MEANWHILE, THERE WOULD BE CONTINUING NEED FOR GUINEA TO IMPORT FOOD MUCH OF WHICH IT WOULD BE UNABLE TO PAY FOR WITH HARD CURRENCY DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS. HE HOPED US WOULD BE AS GENEROUS AS IT COULD DURING THIS PERIOD.

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